

**From:** Dr. David A. Zatz  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 11/20/01 3:17pm  
**Subject:** Proposed Microsoft settlement

I must ask you to reject the proposed settlement with Microsoft.

By agreeing to a toothless settlement with Microsoft, you would condone a variety of illegal practices which have bankrupted many companies and sent many people out of work, while suppressing superior technologies.

You would also send a clear message to the world - that in America the law is a tool of the wealthy, that if you have been successful enough, your crimes will be forgiven. Certainly that would be the case with Microsoft - essentially destroying WordPerfect, Lotus, Netscape, and, to a degree, Apple (not to mention many others) would be forgiven, if Microsoft would promise to hold itself mostly to the law in the future. That's pretty weak, and given how well they've fulfilled their promises in the past, foolish as well.

Given Microsoft's contributions to the current administration during the election, we suspect the world would consider a settlement like this to be payback, as well.

Microsoft can stand real penalties. What's more, some real prevention would be handy at this time. Microsoft, which owns or has substantial in many media outlets, is soon to take over most of the world's authentication through .Net and Passport. It is practically forcing MSN down users' throats, and I would be surprised if MSN did not pass AOL within two years, given the sheer number of times a new user has to turn down MSN service. That's too much power for one company - especially one with a history of abuse.

Please make the settlement workable and enforceable, and extract some penalties, or reject it out of hand.